

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q93287

Richard Rudolf Theodoor VAN DEN BRINK

Appln. No.: 10/568,625

Group Art Unit: 3728

Confirmation No.: 2743

Examiner: Unknown

Filed: February 16, 2006

For: METHOD AND DEVICE FOR INSPECTING A STRING OF DRUGS

REQUEST FOR CORRECTED OFFICIAL FILING RECEIPT

ATTN: Office of Initial Patent Examination
Filing Receipt Correction

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

We enclose a copy of the Official Filing Receipt for the above-identified application and request the following corrections:

Claims

4-2

Verification for the requested corrections is indicated on the Preliminary Amendment filed February 16, 2006.

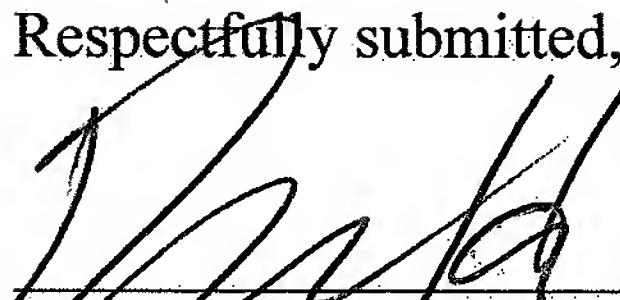
REQUEST FOR OFFICIAL FILING RECEIPT
US Application No. 10/568/,625

Q93287

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23373
CUSTOMER NUMBER

Respectfully submitted,



Brian W. Hannon

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Date: December 1, 2006



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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APPL NO.	FILING OR 371 (c) DATE	ART UNIT	FIL FEE REC'D	ATTY.DOCKET NO	DRAWINGS	TOT CLMS	IND CLMS
10/568,625	06/14/2006	3728	1280	Q93287	6	25	<u>1</u> <u>2</u>

CONFIRMATION NO. 2743

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 WASHINGTON, DC 20037

FILING RECEIPT



OC000000020613388

Date Mailed: 10/03/2006

Receipt is acknowledged of this regular Patent Application. It will be considered in its order and you will be notified as to the results of the examination. Be sure to provide the U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER, FILING DATE, NAME OF APPLICANT, and TITLE OF INVENTION when inquiring about this application. Fees transmitted by check or draft are subject to collection. Please verify the accuracy of the data presented on this receipt. If an error is noted on this Filing Receipt, please mail to the Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria Va 22313-1450. Please provide a copy of this Filing Receipt with the changes noted thereon. If you received a "Notice to File Missing Parts" for this application, please submit any corrections to this Filing Receipt with your reply to the Notice. When the USPTO processes the reply to the Notice, the USPTO will generate another Filing Receipt incorporating the requested corrections (if appropriate).

Applicant(s)

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Assignment For Published Patent Application

Global Factories B.V., Den Haag, NETHERLANDS

Power of Attorney: The patent practitioners associated with Customer Number 23373.

Domestic Priority data as claimed by applicant

This application is a 371 of PCT/NL04/00583 08/19/2004

Foreign Applications

NETHERLANDS 1025161 12/31/2003

NETHERLANDS PCT/NL03/00592 08/19/2003

If Required, Foreign Filing License Granted: 09/27/2006

The country code and number of your priority application, to be used for filing abroad under the Paris Convention, is US10/568,625

Projected Publication Date: 01/04/2007

Non-Publication Request: No

Early Publication Request: No

Title

Method and device for inspecting a string of drugs

Preliminary Class

206

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PATENT APPLICATION

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For: **METHOD AND DEVICE FOR INSPECTING A STRING OF DRUGS**

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows on the accompanying pages.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS	2
REMARKS	9

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (currently amended): **Method** A method for inspecting a group of drugs, comprising:

- the infeed of patient and drug data;
- conveying said drugs past a camera;
- optical scanning said drugs by a camera;
- comparing said scanned drugs with said infeed;
- accepting or rejecting said drugs;
- storing data relating to said drugs in a memory; and
- inspecting several groups of drugs,

~~characterized in that several groups of drugs are inspected,~~ wherein each group is provided in a pack and a number of packs is connected to provide a string, wherein each string is provided with patient data, said camera inspecting said packs and the group of drugs therein, wherein the scanned image of the patient data and packs having the group of drugs therein, is entered in said memory.

Claim 2 (currently amended): **Method** The method according to Claim 1, in ~~which~~wherein said drug scan comprises the number of drugs.

Claim 3 (currently amended): ~~Method~~ The method according to ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein, in which said drug scans comprise the shape and/or colour of said drugs.

Claim 4 (currently amended): ~~Method~~ The method according to ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein both the number of drugs and the shape thereof are used for comparing.

Claim 5 (currently amended): ~~Method~~ The method according to ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein, in which said acceptance/ rejection comprises the application of a colour marking.

Claim 6 (currently amended): ~~Method~~ The method according to ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1 wherein, in which said patient data are provided on each pack.

Claim 7 (currently amended): ~~Method~~ The method according to ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein, in which before the scanning of said drugs they are subjected to a treatment for spreading them out.

Claim 8 (currently amended): ~~Method~~ The method according to claim 7, wherein said treatment comprises applying vibration comprising vibrating.

Claim 9 (currently amended): ~~Method~~ The method according to claim 7 or 8,
wherein said treatment comprises, comprising moving with a brush over said pack.

Claim 10 (currently amended): ~~Method~~ The method according to ~~one of claims 7-~~
~~9~~ claim 7, further comprising the step of, comprising exerting a displacing engagement from
above on said drugs, comprising an annular movement in a plane essentially parallel with a
carrier on which the drugs are placed.

Claim 11 (currently amended): ~~Method~~ The method according to claim 10, wherein
said step of exerting a displacing engagement comprises exerting comprising resilient
engagement in a direction at right angles to said carrier.

Claim 12 (currently amended): ~~Method~~ The method according to claim 10 or ~~11~~ 10
wherein, in which said annular movement comprises a circular movement.

Claim 13 (currently amended): ~~Method~~ The method according to claim 12,
wherein in which the central axis of rotation is essentially at right angles to said carrier.

Preliminary Amendment
Based Upon PCT/NL2004/000584
SUGHRUE MION, PLLC Ref: Q93287

Claim 14 (currently amended): ~~Method~~ The method according to ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 13, wherein, in which said objects are displaced during spreading in the plane of said carrier.

Claim 15 (currently amended): ~~Device~~ A device for inspecting a string (10) of interconnected drug packs (15), comprising:
an infeed (6) for a string of packs (15);
conveyance means (4) for said packs;
a camera (2) for scanning the drugs in said packs;
a discharge (7) for said string of packs; ~~and also~~
an input (19) for patient/drug data; ~~in addition to~~
a comparison device (3) for comparing said patient/drug data with said camera scans;
~~characterized in that~~
scanning means ~~are present~~ for scanning of said patient data; and, ~~and also~~
storage means (3, 5, 8) for storing said patient scans and said drug scans.

Claim 16.(currently amended): ~~Device~~ The device according to claim 15, wherein in which said conveyance means comprise a circulating belt with infeed (6) and discharge (7) provided near each other.

Preliminary Amendment
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SUGHRUE MION, PLLC Ref: Q93287

Claim 17 (currently amended): ~~Device~~ The device according to one of claims 15 or 16, ~~claim 15, wherein, in which~~ said scanning means comprise said camera (2) and also means (16) for storing its scan in a mirror image.

Claim 18 (currently amended): ~~Device~~ The device according to one of claims claim 15-17, in which ~~wherein~~ said camera comprises a first light source (16) for determining the patient data and the number of drugs, and a second light source (24) for determining the colour and/or shape of said drug scans.

Claim 19 (currently amended): ~~Device~~ The device according to one of the claims claim 15-18, further comprising means for spreading drugs lying next to/on top of one another, comprising a carrier (42) for said drugs, as well as a spreading device (41) disposed above said carrier and engaging on said objects, said spreading device comprising a cam-shaped part (46), which in the unloaded state is disposed directly above said carrier with clearance (a) and is designed in such a manner that it is fastened to a drive (52) in order to allow said cam-shaped part to follow a continuous path lying in a plane parallel to and above said carrier.

Claim 20 (currently amended): ~~Device~~ The device according to claim 19, wherein ~~in which~~ said means comprise two spreading devices arranged next to one another.

Preliminary Amendment
Based Upon PCT/NL2004/000584
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Claim 21 (currently amended): ~~Device~~ The device according to claim 19 or 20,
wherein ~~in~~ which said cam-shaped part is resiliently displaceable in a direction at right angles to
said carrier.

Claim 22 (currently amended): ~~Device~~ The device according to one of claims claim
19-21, ~~in which~~ wherein said drive comprises a rotating motor (52) provided with an arm (48)
which is at right angles to the direction of rotation and connected to the rotation shaft and on
which said cam-shaped part is arranged.

Claim 23 (currently amended): ~~Device~~ The device according to one of claims claim
19-22, ~~wherein~~ in which said drive comprises a rotating motor, a transmission (51) connected to
the rotation shaft thereof and an auxiliary arm (54) which is driven by said transmission and
extends essentially at right angles to said carrier and is fitted with said arm (48) on which the
said cam parts (46) are arranged.

Claim 24 (currently amended): ~~Device~~ The device according to one of claims claim
19-23, ~~wherein~~ in which said cam-shaped parts (46) are arranged on an arm (48), said arm being
rotatable about a first central axis of rotation (53), said arm being arranged on an auxiliary arm
(54), said auxiliary arm being rotatable about a second central axis of rotation (55), said first and
second central axes of rotation being at a distance from each other and running parallel to each
other.

Preliminary Amendment
Based Upon PCT/NL2004/000584
SUGHRUE MION, PLLC Ref: Q93287

Claim 25 (currently amended): Device The device according to claim 24, wherein in
which two arms with cam-shaped parts are arranged on said auxiliary arms.

Preliminary Amendment
Based Upon PCT/NL2004/000584
SUGHRUE MION, PLLC Ref: Q93287

REMARKS

Applicants have amended the claims to correct grammatical errors and to eliminate the multiple dependencies. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter has been added. Entry and consideration of this Amendment are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: February 16, 2006